



*"Improving Economies Improve Lives"™*

## University

University of Texas at Tyler

## Center Director

Jeffrey Howlett

## Center Location

East Texas Entrepreneurship Center (ETEC). Soules College of Business. UT Tyler Campus

## UC Established 2018

## Center Activities

Economic Development  
Entrepreneurship

- early stage validation
- lean startup
- incubation

Technology Commercialization

- university and regional Research and Data Analytics
- economic impact studies
- Non-credit business courses
- Business Competitions

## Clients

Entrepreneurs & innovators  
Small businesses startups  
Faculty and students  
Nonprofit organizations  
Local and state governments  
Economic development agencies  
Angel investors

## Website

<https://www.uttyler.edu/cbt/eii.php>

## Contact

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We are exceptionally proud to represent the University of Texas at Tyler and the EDA University Center program as we serve the amazing communities throughout our vast 23 county region.

### Mission

The East Texas Entrepreneurship Center's primary mission is to improve economic development through robust entrepreneurship and innovation programs. **We promote the simple philosophy that "Improving Economies Improve Lives."**

### Program

Our targeted areas are economic development, entrepreneurship, technology commercialization, and business research and analysis. We support all disciplines at UT Tyler as well as entrepreneurs and innovators outside the university. We offer cross disciplinary academic and entrepreneurial programs and the industry expertise necessary to bring new product ideas to the marketplace. Additionally, we actively seek opportunities that will create and strengthen existing and emerging innovation clusters. **Our developing business incubator will provide mentoring and funding opportunities that will be the first of its kind in the region.** It will provide much sought-after help en-suring viable new ventures accelerate and scale more quickly.

### Mentoring

Our center plays an important role in developing professional networks to aid in the success of business opportunities. **To that end we are building a strong venture mentoring program that will bolster new and existing ventures at the university and in the community.**

With the help of our mentors we actively penetrate our diverse business ecosystem at different phases of the business lifecycle from ideation, validation, launch and scale of both lifestyle concerns and scalable ventures.

### Research

**Through the UT Tyler Hibbs Institute, we generate business research and data analytics.** This results in a variety of economic impact studies to serve as a resource for local and state government as they make resource planning decisions. Our business community utilizes this service to help determine new venture launch, scale, or relocate decisions.



Innovate



Validate



Cultivate

### Partners

We work with our partners in the Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) to ensure firms understand the resources available to them in the form of SBA backed loans and other financial literacy projects. **We also value our relationships with the EDA, the State of Texas and other institutions that have helped underwrite many of our efforts.** Our extensive partnerships with business leaders and investors are essential to the economic development of the region. We actively seek mutually beneficial relationships with municipal and regional organizations like the Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Centers, East Texas Council of Governors, Junior Achievement, and others as they are a key part of our success.